

What is claimed is:

1. A programmable electronic system comprising: at least a portion of an enclosure for the system; one or more programmable electrochromic display segments integrated with the enclosure portion and each having color attributes; and, a programmable device responsive to selection of one or more preselected parameters for altering the color attributes of the selected one or more electrochromic display segments.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the one or more electrochromic display segments is selected from a group consisting of a solution type, a precipitation type, and a thin-film type.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein the preselected parameters are selected from a computer monitored group consisting of e-mail messages, instant messages, run completion indicators, computer system heating condition indicators, computer system power conditions, security condition messages, and, computer system aesthetics.
4. A computer system comprising: at least a portion of an enclosure; one or more programmable electrochromic display segments integrated with the enclosure portion and each having color attributes; and, a programmable device responsive to selection of one or more preselected parameters for altering the color attributes of the selected one or more electrochromic display segments.
5. The computer system defined by claim 4 wherein values of the preselected parameters to be utilized are selected by means of a user interface.
6. The computer system defined by claim 4 wherein the preselected parameters are selected from a computer monitored group consisting of e-mail messages, instant messages, run completion indicators, computer system heating condition indicators, computer system power conditions, security condition messages, and, computer system aesthetics.

7. The computer system defined by claim 6 wherein the security condition messages parameter is indicative of the computer system having been stolen, whereby a color attribute of the enclosure portion is altered.
8. The computer system defined by claim 6 wherein the e-mail messages parameter include messages from preselected senders.
9. The computer system defined by claim 4 wherein the computer system is selected from a group of computer systems consisting of: PDA, PC, server, client, mainframe, laptop, mobile phone, and embedded processor.
10. The computer system defined by claim 9 wherein the computer system is a laptop computer and the electrochromic display segments are visible from exterior surface of the laptop when the laptop is in a closed condition.
11. The computer system defined by claim 4 wherein the one or more electrochromic display segments is selected from a group consisting of a solution type, a precipitation type, and a thin-film type.
12. The computer system defined by claim 4 wherein the programmable device includes a display driver that is operable to have control signals applied to the one or more electrochromic display segments.
13. An enclosure adapted for use in enclosing at least a portion of a system having a programmable device responsive to one or more monitored parameters thereof being selected for altering color attributes of one or more electrochromic display segments, the enclosure comprising: a body for enclosing at least a portion of the system, and, one or more programmable electrochromic display segments integrated with the body, the display segments are operable for altering color attributes thereof in response to selection of the one or more parameters.

14. The enclosure defined by claim 13 wherein the body of a system is selected from a group of computer systems consisting of PDA, PC, server, client, mainframe, laptop, mobile phone, and embedded processor.

15. The enclosure defined by claim 14 wherein the system is a laptop and the electrochromic display segments are mounted on an exterior surface of the laptop to be visible when the laptop is in a folded or closed condition.

16. The enclosure defined by claim 13 wherein the one or more display segments is selected from a group of electrochromic display segments consisting of a solution type, a precipitation type, and a thin-film type.

17. A method of altering color attributes of one or more electrochromic display segments of an enclosure portion of programmable electronic system, the method includes providing an enclosure with one or more programmable electrochromic display segments integrated therewith; and, altering color attributes of one or more of the electrochromic display segments responsive to selection of the one or more parameters of a programmable device of the system.

18. The method defined by claim 17 wherein the selection of preselected parameters is through a user interface of the programmable electronic system.

19. The method defined by claim 17 wherein the preselected parameters are selected from a computer monitored group consisting of e-mail messages, instant messages, run completion indicators, computer system heating condition indicators, computer system power conditions, security condition messages, and, computer system aesthetics.

20. The method defined by claim 19 wherein the security condition messages parameter is indicative of the system having been stolen, whereby a color attribute of the enclosure portion is altered.

21. The method defined by claim 18 wherein the e-mail messages include messages from preselected senders.
22. The method defined by claim 17 wherein the system is selected from a group of computer systems consisting of PDA, PC, server, client, mainframe, laptop, mobile phone, and embedded processor.
23. The method defined by claim 22 wherein the computer system is a laptop and the electrochromic display segments are visible from an exterior surface of the laptop when the laptop is in a closed condition.
24. The method defined by claim 17 wherein the one or more display segments is selected from a group of electrochromic display segments consisting of a solution type, a precipitation type, and a thin-film type.
25. The method defined by claim 17 wherein the programmable device includes a display driver that is operable to control signals applied to the one or more electrochromic display segments.
26. A computer-implemented method for controlling electrochromic display segments integrated with an enclosure of a computer system, the method comprising the steps of: programmably setting one or more parameter values each associated with a computer system function and each for use in activating one or more electrochromic display segments; monitoring for an occurrence of the one or more set parameter values; and, selecting one or more electrochromic display segments for activation in response to the monitored occurrence.
27. The method of claim 26 wherein a user sets the one or more parameter values through a user interface.
28. The method of claim 27 wherein a user sets the one or more parameter values through a graphical user interface.

29. A computer system comprising: an enclosure portion; one or more electrochromic display segments integrated with the enclosure portion, each of which is operable for changing color attributes thereof for visually altering the enclosure portion color; the system comprising:

a memory containing a programmable application that accepts user input for configuring one or more parameter values, monitors for an occurrence of the one or more configured parameter values, and, activates one or more of the electrochromic display segments in response to the monitored occurrence; and,
a processor operably coupled to the memory which performs operations, comprising: allowing a user to programmably set one or more parameter values each of which is associated with a computer system function, and each of which is for use in activating one or more electrochromic display segments; monitoring for one or more of the set parameter values; and, activating one or more electrochromic display segments in response to the monitored occurrence of one or more set parameters values to change the color attributes of the enclosure.

30. The system of claim 29 wherein the parameter values are selected from a computer monitored group consisting of e-mail messages, instant messages, run completion, computer system heating conditions, computer system power, and security conditions messages, and computer system aesthetics.

31. A computer program product for facilitating altering of color attributes of one or more electrochromic display segments of a computer system enclosure portion, the computer program product comprising:
a medium readable by a computer, the computer readable medium having a computer program code to alter color attributes of the one or more electrochromic display segments responsive to the monitored occurrence of one or more programmably set parameter values.

32. The computer program product of claim 31 wherein the parameter values are selected from a computer monitored group consisting of e-mail messages, instant

messages, run completion indicators, computer system heating condition indicators, computer system power conditions, security condition messages, and, computer system aesthetics.